

wish to save him ! Yet that is the way your grandfat defended Louis XVI. . . . As to the confiscation you sp of whafc does that prove ? Nothing. Why, the property Kobespierre was confiscated ! And let me tell you that Roi pierre himself, Marat, and Danton did much less mischiel France than M. Necker. It was he who brought about [Revolution. You, Monsieur de Stael, did not see this ; bi did. I witnessed all that passed in those days of terror ; public calamity. But as long as I live those days shall ne return. Your speculators trace their Utopian schemes uj paper 5 fools read and believe them. All are babbling ab general happiness, and presently the people have not bread eat ; then comes a revolution. Such is usually the fruit of these fine theories ! Your grandfather was the cause of saturnalia which desolated France. He is responsible for the blood shed in the Revolution ! "

Duroc informed me that the Emperor uttered these 1 words in a tone of fury which made all present tremble young De Stael. Fortunately the young man did not lose " self-possession in the conflict, while the agitated expressi of his countenance evidently showed what was passing in ' mind. He was sufficiently master of himself to reply to t Emperor in a calm though rather faltering voice : " Sire, p mit me to hope that posterity will judge of my grandfat: more favorably than your Majesty does. During his admin tration he was ranked by the side of Sully and Colbert ; a let me repeat again that I trust posterity will render h: •justice." — "Posterity will, probably, say little about him." "I venture to hope the contrary, Sire."

Then, added Duroc, the Emperor turning to us said witl smile, " After all, gentlemen, it is not for me to say too mu against the Eevolution since I have gained a throne by i1 Then again turning to M. de Stael he said, "The reign anarchy is at an end. I must have subordination. Kespe the sovereign authority, since it comes from God.¹ You a

¹ This belief in the Divine origin of power was dear to the mind of , leon. " Napoleon was also much impressed with the idea of deriving; t origin of supreme authority from the Divinity. Pin said to me one day Compiegne, shortly after his marriage with the Archduchess, " T see that t